



St Ann's Church Manchester

Safeguarding policy

Andrew Kyle

Version 1 Adopted 26th February 2024

Review Date: 26th July 2025

Version History

Date	Version	Comments	Author
26 th February 2024	1.0	Initial Document adopted by PCC	AK

The following policy was agreed at the Parochial Church Council (PCC) meeting held on 26th February 2024

Framework and Principles

In every respect, St Ann's subscribes to, and will seek to follow, the Church of England's policy entitled Promoting a Safer Church; House of Bishops Policy Statement (2017), which can be found at

<https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2019-05/PromotingSaferChurchWeb.pdf>.

In accordance with that Policy St Ann's is committed to:

- Promoting a safe environment and culture.
- Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation.
- Caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse and other affected persons.
- Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse and other affected persons.
- Responding to those that may pose a present risk to others.
- Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children, young people and vulnerable adults within the church.

And we undertake to:

- Take steps to protect children and adults when a safeguarding concern of any kind arises, following House of Bishops guidance.
- Offer support to victims/survivors of abuse regardless of the type of abuse, when or where it occurred.
- Care for and monitor any member of the church community who may pose a risk to children and adults whilst maintaining appropriate confidentiality and the safety of all parties.
- Ensure that health and safety policy, procedures and risk assessments are in place and that these are reviewed annually.

Action

As a Parish and as a church community, we will:

- Listen to and take seriously all those who disclose abuse.
- Have a named Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) to work with the Incumbent and the PCC to implement policy and procedures. The PSO is required to take the Church of England's Basic Awareness, Foundation and Leadership Safeguarding Courses. The current Safeguarding Officer is Andrew Kyle.
- Display in church premises and on the Parish website the names and photographs of both the Safeguarding Officer and the Incumbent, together with clear instructions as to how to contact them.
- Ensure that all officers of the church, PCC members and as far as possible long-standing members of the church community are aware of this policy and of the action to be taken in case of any safeguarding disclosure or issue.
- Ensure that all church officers and PCC Members, and anyone else who may from time to time be in a position of authority, have basic Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks.
- Require all church employees and Churchwardens to undertake the Church of England Basic Awareness and Foundation Safeguarding Courses (to be found at <https://safeguardingtraining.cofeportal.org/>), and strongly encourage all PCC members to do so.

As soon as any safeguarding concerns arise, they should immediately be passed on in confidence to the Safeguarding Officer or the Incumbent and to no-one else. Except where the other is directly implicated in the concern or is unavailable for any reason, the Safeguarding Officer and the Incumbent will discuss the concern together. Any case considered at all serious will immediately be passed on to and discussed with the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser, with whom an appropriate course of action will be agreed. When appropriate, cases may be immediately referred to the Police or to relevant external agencies.

For this reason, confidentiality should never be offered to any victim or witness in any case of disclosure, though confidentiality should be carefully observed within and outside the church community.

Responsibility and Review

This Policy is the responsibility of the Safeguarding Officer, working closely with the Rector. It will be reviewed annually at the second PCC Meeting following the APCM.